

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
DALLAS DIVISION**

<b>KEITH LEANNEL CARTER, #1122236,</b>	§	
<b>Petitioner,</b>	§	
	§	
<b>v.</b>	§	<b>CIVIL NO. 3:15-CV-3758-L-BK</b>
	§	
<b>WILLIAMS STEPHENS, Director</b>	§	
<b>TDCJ-CID,</b>	§	
<b>Respondent.</b>	§	

**FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION  
OF THE UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

Pursuant to [28 U.S.C. § 636\(b\)](#) and *Special Order 3*, this action was automatically referred to the United States Magistrate Judge. Petitioner, a state prisoner, filed a *pro se* petition for a writ of habeas corpus under [28 U.S.C. § 2254](#). For the reasons that follow, it is recommended that this successive habeas petition be transferred to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

**I. BACKGROUND**

In 2002, Petitioner was convicted of aggravated robbery with a deadly weapon and sentenced to 45 years' confinement. *State v. Carter*, No. F02-42680 (292nd Judicial District court, Dallas County, 2002), *aff'd*, [No. 03-02-00626-CR, 2003 WL 22096102 \(Tex. App.--Austin, Sept. 11, 2003, pet. ref'd.\)](#). He later unsuccessfully challenged his conviction in state and federal habeas proceedings and sought leave to file a successive application from the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. *See Carter v. Quarterman*, [No. 3-07-CV-0388-K, 2008 WL 361004 \(N.D. Tex. 2008\)](#) (denying federal habeas petition; *In re Carter*, No. 15-11099 (5th Cir. Dec. 16, 2015) (denying leave to file a successive application)).

In this action, Petitioner again seeks to challenge his conviction by raising new grounds for habeas relief. [Doc. 7 at 2](#). Specifically, he claims counsel failed to investigate the state's alibi witness, the trial court lost jurisdiction to enter the judgment, and the state suppressed evidence that could have proved the Petitioner's innocence. [Doc. 7 at 6-7](#).

## II. ANALYSIS


The Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 limits the circumstances under which a petitioner may file a second or successive application for federal habeas relief. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b). In general, to raise a new claim, the petitioner must show that the successive application is based on: (1) a new rule of constitutional law made retroactive to cases on collateral review by the Supreme Court; or (2) newly discovered evidence that, if proven and viewed in light of the evidence as a whole, would be sufficient to establish by clear and convincing evidence that no reasonable fact finder would have found him guilty of the offense. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(2). Before a petitioner may file his application in the district court, however, a three-judge panel of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit must determine whether the application makes the requisite prima facie showing. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(3)(A) and (B). Section 2244(b)(3)(A) constitutes a bar to the district court's jurisdiction to consider a successive habeas petition unless the United States Court of Appeals has first granted the petitioner permission to file such a petition. [United States v. Key](#), 205 F.3d 773, 774 (5th Cir. 2000) (*per curiam*) (section 2255 motion); *see also* [Crone v. Cockrell](#), 324 F.3d 833, 836 (5th Cir. 2003) (section 2254 habeas petition).

The United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit has not issued an order authorizing this Court to consider the successive petition in this case.<sup>1</sup> Because Petitioner must obtain such an order before he can file a successive application challenging his conviction, his section 2254 petition should be dismissed without prejudice for want of jurisdiction.

### III. RECOMMENDATION

For the foregoing reasons, it is recommended that the successive habeas petition be **DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE** for lack of jurisdiction because Petitioner has not obtained authorization to file a successive habeas petition from the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. See 28 U.S.C. § 2244(b)(1) and (3).

**SIGNED** February 5, 2016.




RENEE HARRIS TOLIVER  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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<sup>1</sup> The Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit has previously denied Petitioner's request to file a successive petition raising two of three claims he attempts to raise here. *In re Carter*, No. 15-11099.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SERVICE AND  
NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL/OBJECT**

A copy of this report and recommendation will be served on all parties in the manner provided by law. Any party who objects to any part of this report and recommendation must file specific written objections within 14 days after being served with a copy. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1); FED. R. CIV. P. 72(b). In order to be specific, an objection must identify the specific finding or recommendation to which objection is made, state the basis for the objection, and specify the place in the magistrate judge's report and recommendation where the disputed determination is found. An objection that merely incorporates by reference or refers to the briefing before the magistrate judge is not specific. Failure to file specific written objections will bar the aggrieved party from appealing the factual findings and legal conclusions of the magistrate judge that are accepted or adopted by the district court, except upon grounds of plain error. *See Douglass v. United Services Automobile Ass'n*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1417 (5th Cir. 1996).

  
RENEE HARRIS TOLIVER  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE